

Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge
ECAC Small Group Discussions
Round 2 Feedback Summary

1. Is there a need for Wisconsin to comment on the RFP, if so, about what area?

- Additional funding for coaching a site after training on specifies content areas.
- Appreciate the opportunity to partner with other states.
- Agree with QRIS priority areas.
- Can the funded states disseminate best practices?
- Letter # D could address “support families and communities” by restating as; strengthen families and communities through intentional family engagement and parent support strategies.
- Garner supportive comments from those outside EC;
 - i. Law enforcement and attorney general or head of Dept. of Corrections.
 - ii. Business leaders such as Tim Sheehy (MMAC) or Kurt Bauer (WMC) or PWES.
 - iii. Healthcare or secretary of Health Services or Children’s Hospital at UW or in Milwaukee.
 - iv. Show broader perspective from across state beyond “parochial” education and childcare only.

2. Please share comments, considerations, or priorities for Wisconsin’s application.

- Even as we improve on weaknesses, be sure to emphasize strengths.
- Need meaningful dialogues on what the public private partnership looks like in practice as well as the discussion making and power sharing details of local vs. state control.
- Continuity of strategies B-12 related to family engagement and community development approaches.
- Broad professional development including;
 - i. Linguistic and cultural studies within classrooms
 - ii. T and TA across all disciplines include family engagement.
 - iii. Include evaluation on all priorities – aligning longitudinal data
- Hope that public-private stays in.
- KEA and ECLDS require large “up front” investments, which this grant can provide; be strategic in taking advantage of this opportunity when prioritizing.
- Family engagement emphasis.
- Prioritize and consider potential partnerships in:
 - i. EC-LDS
 - ii. KEA – consider a comprehensive assessment
 - iii. Professional Development coordination

- iv. Consider a multi-state partnership regarding professional development especially.
- Ensure Early Learning emphasis is truly developmentally appropriate.
- Obesity Prevention – specific to QRIS wellness criteria
 1. Technical assistance around health and wellness components of QRIS.
 2. Increase parent/family engagement by helping providers with resources/training around nutrition, physical activity and health.